

respect amongst our operatives would remove a great disadvantage under which we now labour; as compared with foreign manufacturers. By the power of art that which is evanescent and fleeting, is arrested and made permanent, to minister constantly to our delight and improvement: from her works we have obtained some of our most distinct impressions of the past, our best knowledge of things remote: moreover, as I have again and again urged in all quarters, admiration of what is beautiful is not far from admiration of what is good.

No opportunity should be lost of extending the elevated enjoyments which the arts present; and it is to be desired that influential public bodies withhold the efforts now being made in their favour, by expending some of their surplus revenues in portraying on their walls noble actions or elevated feelings, and setting up, in marble, memorials of their good and great men.

The larger number of the wall paintings to which I referred have been destroyed; nor is this to be wondered at, when we remember the extent to which ancient buildings themselves have been ill-treated and removed. A more preservative spirit has been induced, in late years, by the works of a few writers and by the various archaeological and antiquarian societies established throughout the country. As a member of one of the bodies sings,—

"These clerks sturdy men were they,
As ever wore gown and hood;
And they wander'd about from day to day,
In coat of black velvet and jacket of grey,
And they visited every church by the way,
Wherever they walk'd or rode;
And they measur'd each buttress and tower and pier,
And decipher'd black letters on every tier;
And they climbed the tall ladders to trace the old glass,
And they fell on their knees as they rubbed the bright brass;
And they thought themselves wonderful wights,
No doubt,
To make such illegible writing out,
And to tell all the people far more about
Their own parish church, than the yeoman stout
Who'd been the churchwarden (as who could doubt)
For twenty long years and more;
On the rector so fat, or the vicar so lean;
On the curate, as yellow as saffron with spinen;
On the clerk, or the sexton, or she who should clean,
But does not, the church every Saturday e'en;
On the sturdy archdeacon, or sturdier dean,—
Cathedral or rural,—or bishop, I woe;
On patron himself, with his visage so keen,—
So vast and profound their lore."

To our friend Mr. Britton, for his efforts, in this respect, at a time when most people seemed to think, with Evelyn, that Gothic buildings were "dull, heavy, monkish piles, without any just proportion, use, or beauty," the thanks of all are due. To him belongs the merit of having formed the present efficient school of architectural illustrators and engravers. This, however, is a digression.

Gothic architecture passed through several stages, which have been termed, in the broadest division of them,—

The Lancet, or Early English;
The Decorated; and
The Perpendicular.

Various other titles have been given to them, but I am disposed to retain the old ones, simply adopting one further division,—

The Geometrical, between the Early English and the Decorated,—instead of speaking, as was formerly done, of Early Decorated and Late Decorated.

In very broad terms, we will look a little more closely at the matter hereafter, when we come to examine the characteristics of these styles: you may call

Norman, the architecture of the twelfth century;

Early English, of the thirteenth century;
Decorated, of the fourteenth century; and
Perpendicular, of the fifteenth century.

Thus, you see, when you have learned how to distinguish the styles—and I will try and tell you how to do this easily in my next—you will at once, on falling upon one of our old cathedrals or churches, recognise the period of

its erection, and so view it with much more knowledge and much more pleasure.

Believe me always sincerely yours,
Heggie.

PRESENTATION OF THE PRIZES—ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.

On 28th June, Earl de Grey took the chair, and said that a pleasing duty, and one which he had executed with very great satisfaction before, devolved on him on the present occasion,—the distribution of the prizes awarded in the course of the presentation to different competitors in different graduations of the profession. Whilst his duty was most gratifying, the selection of the candidates to receive the rewards, which fell on the council, was not so light a task, and was, indeed, accompanied with the fear of doing unintentional injustice in making the awards. His lordship then proceeded to present the prizes which had been awarded to Messrs. W. Laidley, J. G. Tarring, and B. Fletcher, students (the first named receiving two prizes), accompanying the presentation with congratulatory and encouraging remarks to the recipients. The medal of merit was then presented, with liberal observations, to Mr. Knowles, junr. The next prize, his lordship said, which he had to present, was the Royal gold medal, placed at their disposal by her most gracious Majesty, who, with the greatest liberality and frankness, had always been kind enough to sanction the recommendation made by the Institute as to its appropriation, without any intervention whatever on her own part. He had, on two occasions, had an opportunity of speaking to Prince Albert on the subject, and he knew that both her Majesty and the Prince had great pleasure in learning that the Royal medal had been so productive of advantage to the important profession on which it was bestowed. The distribution of the medal was, of course, at all times, a matter of more or less difficulty. It was not restricted to works of any immediate specific nature, but the conditions on which it was awarded were very extensive,—as would appear from the paper respecting it which had been publicly put forth by the Institute. The Chevalier von Klense, to whom it had this year been awarded, was a man whose fame was now European. His works were perhaps mainly confined to the city of which he was an inhabitant, but his fame was universal. It might have been imagined, and it would not have been an unnatural feeling, that, as many in this country were looking forward to obtaining this honourable mark of distinction, they should feel a desire to confine it to their own nation; but he thought the Institute of British architects, although called "British Architects," had done themselves the greatest honour by the entire impartiality they had shewn in not confining this reward solely to the members of their own country. He had before presented the Royal Medal to a gentleman not a native of Great Britain (Casina), and he had then expressed the same sentiment, because he was quite sure that the Institute would be held in higher estimation by men of their own profession abroad, when it was seen that there was no petty jealousy, and no nepotism in the awarding of this medal; and that it was not given to a man merely because he was an Englishman, or a member of the Institute. Mr. Cockerell, it should be remembered, was not a member when the medal was awarded to him.

His lordship then addressed Mr. de Bazon de Cetto, the Bavarian Minister, who attended on behalf of the Chevalier von Klense, to receive the medal, thanking him, on the part of the Institute for his kindness in being present. As they could not have the pleasure of receiving Mr. de Klense himself, it was the more desirable that some gentleman should be present who would be kind enough to report to him the feeling with which the gift of the Royal Medal was accompanied. He had not himself visited Munich since Von Klense had resided at Munich; but they all knew that besides the works of that distinguished architect in that city, there were many others which might be honestly attributed to him as the work of his pupils or students,

and that the decoration of that city, enjoying an European, and indeed universal, reputation, was due in the greatest degree to his talents, his taste, and his exertions. The British Architects had therefore done themselves great credit in selecting such an individual, to confer the medal upon, and he trusted that, in transmitting it, Mr. de Cetto would be kind enough to convey the feelings which he hoped had been expressed by the meeting, on that occasion, those feelings which they all wished to convey to him, namely the warmest tribute of their respect and admiration.

The Baron de Cetto, in receiving the medal, assured the chairman that Mr. Von Klense would accept it with a high degree of pride, and having been thought worthy of it by a body of such eminent men as those forming the Institute,—and the more so, as it was an honour which many others were ambitious of obtaining. He thanked his lordship for the very flattering terms in which he had been pleased to mention Von Klense, and expressed the gratification he should feel in conveying those sentiments to him.

The Chairman said that he had on more than one occasion urged upon the members, and all persons connected with the Institute, the importance of doing something to contribute to the interest of its proceedings. For himself, he was an advocate for making example and precept go hand in hand. Two years ago the Institute were kind enough to listen with attention to some remarks he had put together respecting the excavations then going on at Fountains Abbey, Yorkshire. The works had been since continued, and he thought it possible that a few additional remarks might possess some slight interest to those who had felt it in the earlier stages of the work.

In the course of the paper the writer said,—

"Such loose and decayed stone or mortar as would easily and safely be removed by hand, without the risk of shaking the remainder, was carefully taken out, and mortar, or cement, or grout, carefully and slowly put in, so that one portion might not before too much was accumulated."

The upper surface of the wall thus fitted up, has then been fairly levelled, with a weathering to carry off the wet in the most favourable direction; and as the maintenance of picturesque effect was most desirable where it could be managed, in many parts the stones of the upper course, if they were sufficiently light and loose to be safely moved by hand, were taken off and set aside with the moss, or herbage, or even shrubs adhering to them, and afterwards replaced upon the levelled surface: thus affording protection to the wall below, by the new work, and yet preserving the broken line, and effect of foliage and antiquity, upon the margin."

The Rev. Richard Burgess, B.D. then read a paper on the Topography of the Roman Forum and the Atrium Capitolium, to which we shall refer hereafter.

At the conclusion of it, Mr. Tite offered some observations on the subject, being the results of his recent investigations on the spot.

NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

St Ives.—The new station, goods' shed, &c. were opened to the public on Monday week. The passengers' station, with four fronts, waiting and master's rooms, with other convenience, has been but ten weeks in erection under Mr. Peshcroft, the Eastern Counties engineer. On the left of the passengers' station is a goods shed, extending 160 feet, built by Mr. Peck, of Cambridge, with sheds to accommodate the cattle market of St. Ives. It is contemplated by the Eastern Counties Company to let the field out on building leases.

Melton Mowbray.—Little Dalby Church has been restored and reopened. Mr. E. B. Harstopp, of Dalby House, and the late Mr. Samuel Harstopp, who held the vicarage, are said to have borne the greatest cost. The architect employed was Mr. Brandon, and Messrs. Broadbent and Handley, of Leicester, the builders.—Ab-Kettleby Church, which has become much dilapidated, is under repair, at a cost of about 700*l.* partly borne by Mr. H. C. Bingham, the patron of the living, and partly by public subscription.

Sunderland.—The contract for completing